



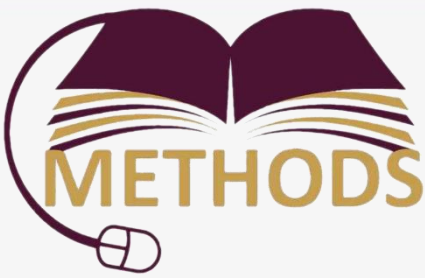
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News letter

Issue 6 October, 2018





METHODS PROJECT NEWSLETTERS

METHODS: Modernization of Teaching Methodologies in Higher Education-EU Experience for Jordan and Palestinian Territory .

METHODS Project Number
561940-EPP-1-2015-1-JO-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Website
<http://methods.ju.edu.jo>



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



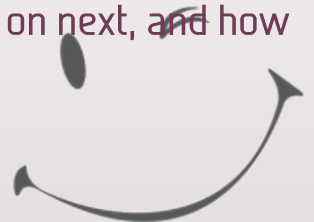
.....WELCOME TO **METHODS** PROJECT

Dear reader,

Welcome to the sixth issue of our Project Newsletter, providing you with the latest update on METHODS Project progress!

This newsletter contains information of what we have accomplished in the project, what we are working on now, what we plan to work on next, and how the project is going in general.

We hope you will enjoy it!



In This Issue ... !



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About METHODS ...

If you are a new follower for our project **METHODS**.



METHODS is a 3-year project that started on the 15th October, 2015 and is co-funded by the Erasmus+ programmed of the European Union. It is coordinated by The University of Jordan (UJ) **with 14 partners** from Jordan, Palestine and European countries.

The project aims at improving the quality of teaching and learning at the partner universities with cooperation of EU-experience through incorporating technological tools in consistence with pedagogical best practices and by building the capacity of the universities to evaluate, develop and design e-curricula.



METHODS helps students to engage with the material, participate in the class, and collaborate with each other. The students are no longer listen and memorize only; instead, they are demonstrate a process, analyze an argument, or apply a concept to a real-world situation.



METHODS Extension

METHODS Gets Six-Month Extension

To assure the project sustainability and its desired impact , the project consortium requested a six months extension for the project.

The project will end on April 14, 2019 and the final conference will be in March, 2019.



METHODS Training Workshops

Design Thinking Workshop for Students



At The University of Jordan



May 25, 2018

In the framework of METHODS project a three-day training workshop for students was held at The University of Jordan during May 21-23, 2018.



The training focused on design thinking from both a theoretic and applied approach to help the students learn how to come up with innovative solutions to identified problems within a number of fields in engineering.

The training was conducted by Aalborg university in Denmark. Also; representatives from industry sector participated in the workshop and discussed with student the different ways of thinking to solve real industry problems.







Four Local Training Workshops on "Modern Educational Methodologies" in Jordan



Jordan



July 15, 2018,



A series of successful training workshops on "Modern Educational Methodologies and the Educational Portal (MethodsX) toward Improving Teaching and Learning in Jordan" were conducted last week (July 15-19, 2018) at each partner university in Jordan (The University of Jordan, Hashemite University, Jordan University of Science and Technology, and Al-Zaytoonah University).

The training workshops **focused** on applying of Modern Educational Methodologies such as Problem Based Learning and its benefits to enhance 21 century skills of learners. Also; MOOCS as an approach toward flexible innovative learning and its opportunities was one of the topics. In addition; a demonstration of selected courses from METHODS project adopting PBL, Flipped Learning and Moocs were presented. Moreover; The developed educational Portal (MethodsX) through the project were presented to participants.



During these workshops, speakers from stakeholders were invited to deliver a presentation on using ICT in education.

The training was delivered by the team members of METHODS project from Jordan and Palestine who trained previously in Europe:

- Prof. Ahmed Al-Salaymeh, METHODS project general coordinator;
- Dr. Wasel Ghanem, Dean of Engineering School at Birzeit University;
- Prof. Lutfi Al-Sharif, Professor at Mechatronics Engineering department at The University of Jordan;
- and Dr. Muhannad Al-Shboul, faculty member at School of Educational Sciences at The University of Jordan.



"Modern Educational Methodologies and the Educational Portal (MethodsX) toward Improving Teaching and Learning in Jordan" workshops



in Jordan



July 23 , 2018

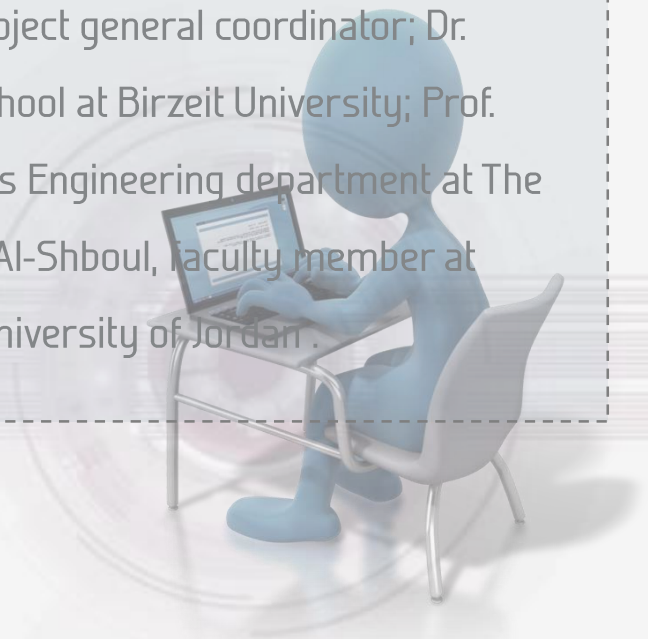


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workshop on "How to conduct a Quiz In Moodle"



The university of Jordan.



July 30 , 2018

The poster is titled "Conducting A Quiz In Moodle" and "إجراء الاختبارات القصيرة من خلال نظام Moodle". It features a central yellow path with icons representing various aspects of the workshop: Moodle logo, a bar chart, a book labeled "METHODS", a location pin, gears, a person icon, and a target. The text is in Arabic and lists the following objectives:

- أهداف الدورة :
- بيان دور الامتحانات القصيرة في النجاح العملية التدريسية في الجامعة.
- بناء مستودع أسئلة بتواعها المختلفة.
- بناء امتحان قصير وإضافة أسئلة إليه وطرحه للتطبيق وتفعيله.
- تحليل نتائج الامتحان القصير.

المدرّب:
الأساتذة الدكتور لطفي النشرف
كلية الهندسة

يوم الخميس ٢٠١٨/٨/٢
الساعة (١٠-١٠)
مختبر ساسونج/ كلية الملك عبد الله الثاني لتكنولوجيا المعلومات

Stay Traditional
Join the Learning Movement



In the frame work of METHODS project, a workshop on "How to conduct a Quiz In Moodle" will take place on Thursday, August 2, 2018, at King Abdullah II School of Information Technology, The university of Jordan.

Trainer: Prof. Lutfi Al-Sharif

Methods Assessment Workshop in ANNU



Palestine Polytechnic University



August 14, 2018



Much curriculum upgrade effort on campus has been lately focused on integrating a practical side along with the theoretical side in the course plans. The practice will help learners develop the necessary skills to translate the acquired knowledge into tangible course products.

The Center for Excellence at ANNU delivered a 3-hour training workshop to train ANNU academic staff on designing formative and summative assessment activities to measure and evaluate those skills and on using tools that are designed to measure learner performance along with product quality.

The main objectives for this workshop were 1) Present, discuss and compare assessment approaches; 2) Align assessment schemes with course ILOs; 3) train faculty members on using new assessment methods like portfolios, project evaluation schemes, problem solving evaluation rubrics, presentation rubrics among others; 4) Provide learners with the opportunity to reflect on assessment methods for the proposed Innovation course.



PPU conduct a workshop on "Flipped Learning"



Palestine Polytechnic University



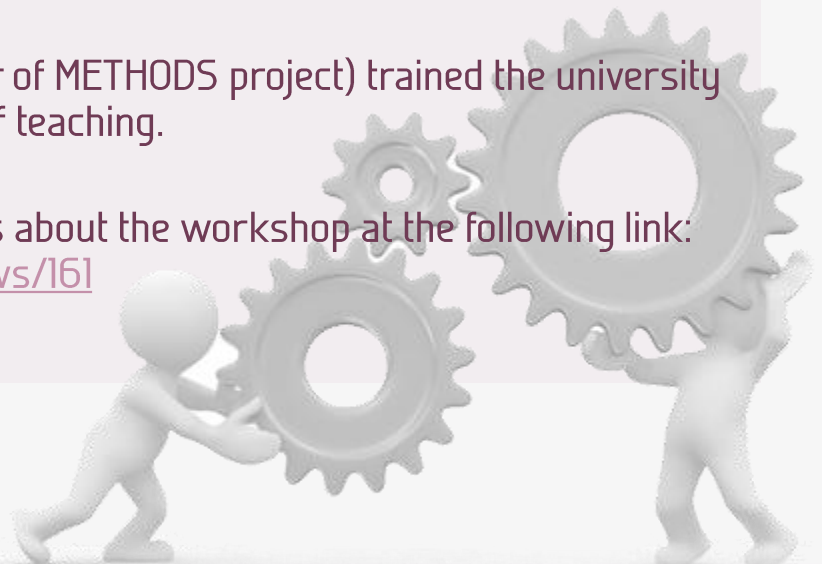
August 15, 2018



On August 15, 2018, Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU) conducted a workshop on the flipped teaching in the center of excellence of teaching and learning.

Dr Ghassan Shahin (Trainer of METHODS project) trained the university staff on this methodology of teaching.

You can find the press news about the workshop at the following link:
<https://cetl.ppu.edu/en/news/161>



METHODS Students attends Training Workshop in Germany

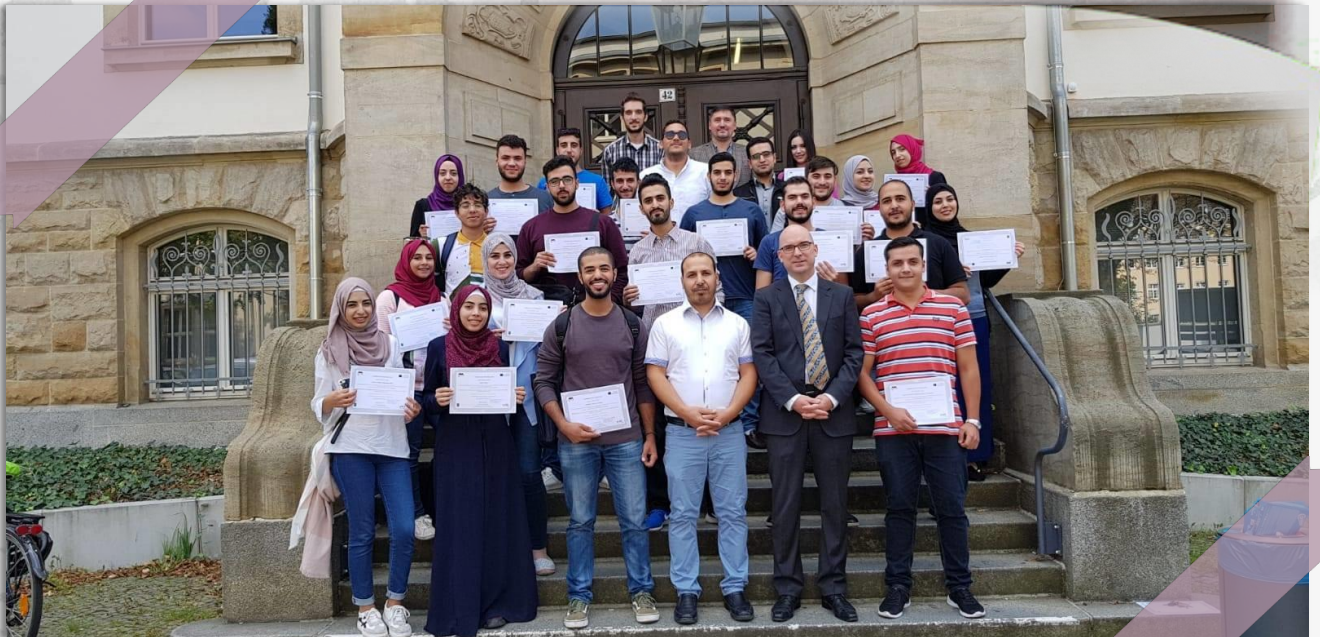
 Leipzig University , in Germany

 September 09, 2018

Two-week training workshop in Leipzig University of Applied Sciences, Germany during the period (August 26-September 8, 2018) was organized for selected students who enrolled in the piloted courses of METHODS.

The training dealt with many topics such as Multimedia and personal instructions in microprocessor programing, E-Learning Experience in the context of IT/ electronic engineering knowledge, and Robotics and games LEGO programming.

The training also included a visit to startups in the field of e-learning, virtual reality and software development.





Problem-based course design orientation workshop at ANNU



in ANNU



Sep 22, 2018



ANNU center of excellence staff trained 15 academic faculty on the tools and practices of problem-based and flipped classrooms. This was part of our effort to disseminate good practice which resulted from the implementation of the Methods courses.





METHODS Meetings

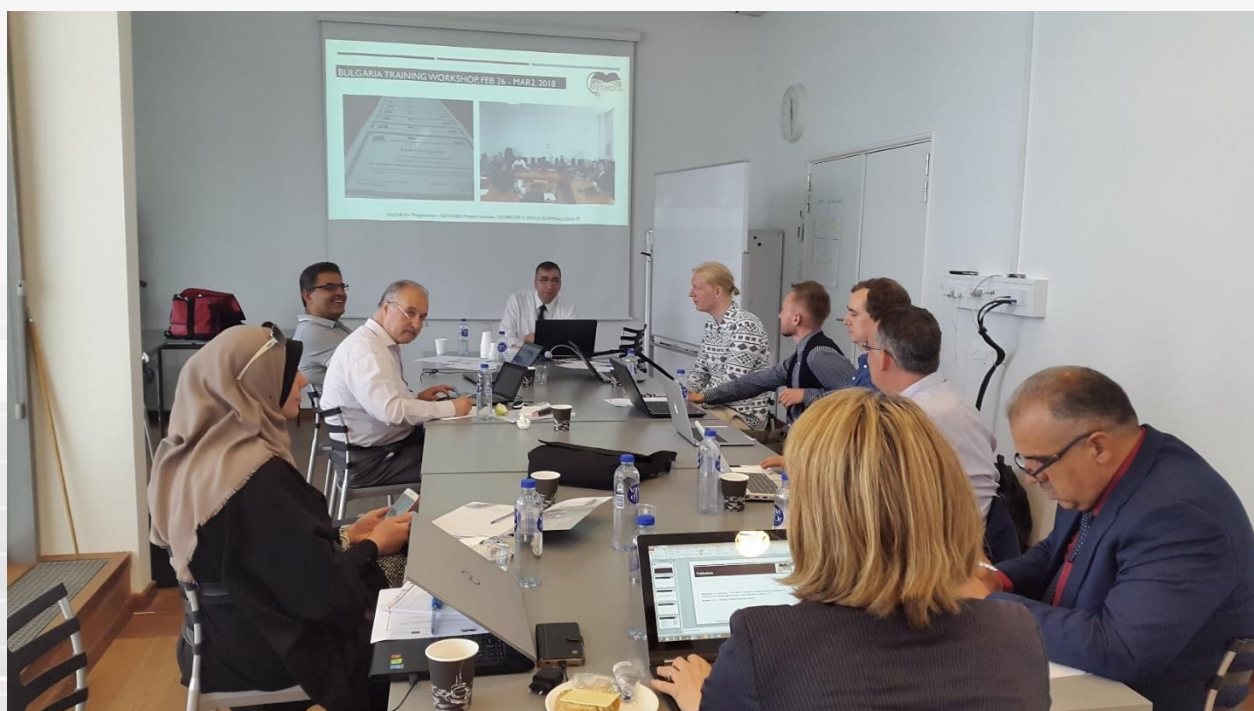
Aalborg University Copenhagen hosts METHODS Management Meeting



Copenhagen Denmark



June 21, 2018,



A management meeting for METHODS Project held during June 21-22, 2018 in Copenhagen-Denmark.

The meeting gathered representatives from different project partners including Jordan, Palestine, Denmark, United Kingdom, and Germany.

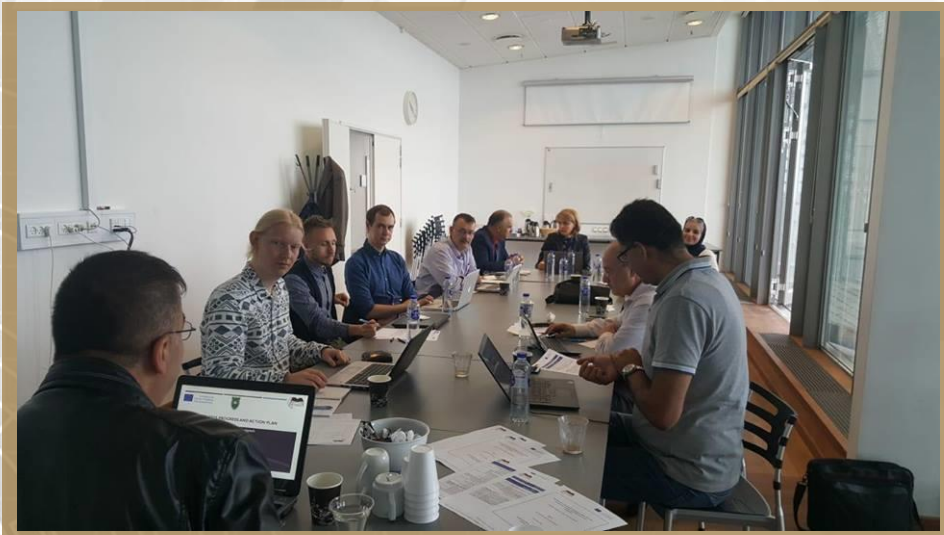
The meeting focused on

discussing the progress in developing METHODS courses, METHODS educational portal, quality procedures, networking and dissemination workshops and the training plan for the academic, technical staff and students in Europe



The next meeting is scheduled to take place in August, 2018 in United Kingdom.





METHODS Sixth Steering Committee Meeting



In University of Wolverhampton in UK



August 30, 2018



University of Wolverhampton in UK hosted METHODS quality meeting during August 30-31, 2018.

The meeting focused on the planing for the next six months in the project after the extension was approved and also on the quality monitoring activities.

Bethlehem students produces documentary short videos to publicize the idea behind methods project.



How METHODS is enhancing the learning process? Video link:

<https://www.facebook.com/methods2016/videos/1489615481160797/?t=78>

What does METHODS mean?

Video link:

<https://www.facebook.com/methods2016/videos/1489597687829243/?t=2>

University Of Wolverhampton hosts METHODS meeting



Telford, United Kingdom

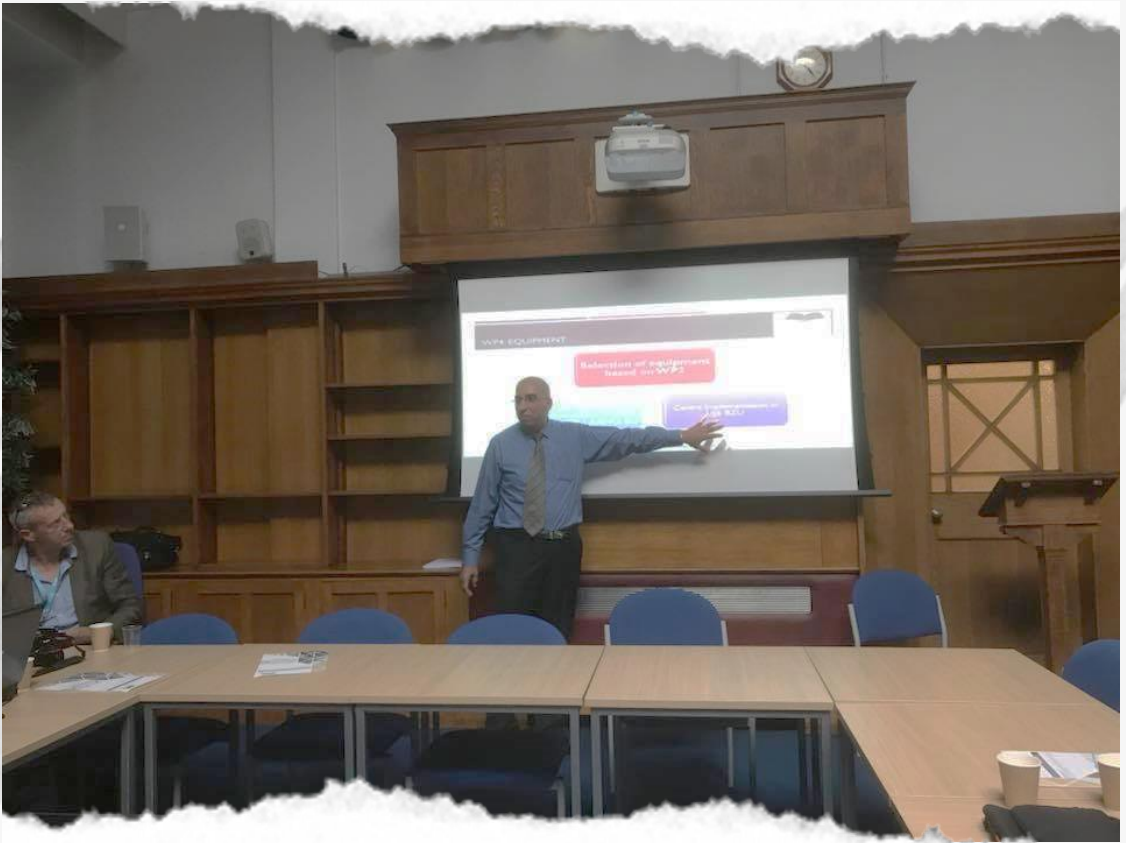


31 August, 2018



University of Wolverhampton in UK hosted METHODS quality meeting during August 30-31, 2018.

The meeting focused on the planning for the next six months in the project after the extension was approved and also on the quality monitoring activities.





Monitoring visit for METHODS at Birzeit University



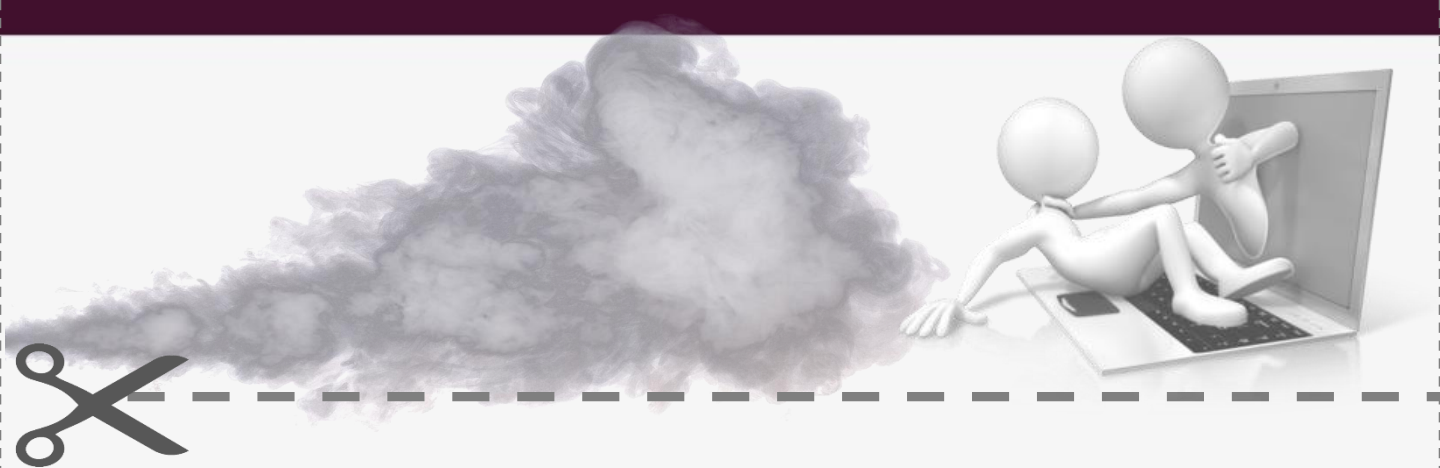
Birzeit University , Palestine



05 july , 2018

The National Erasmus+ office (NEO) in Palestine conducted a monitoring visit on July 5, 2018, for the Erasmus+ project "METHODS: Modernization of Teaching Methodologies in Higher Education: EU Experience For Jordan And Palestinian Territory" at the Najad Zeeni Building - Birzeit University (BZU).

The event was attended by METHODS' team members at Birzeit University, including faculty members from different faculties, and the administrative and technical staff. In addition to representatives from the project partners in Palestine .

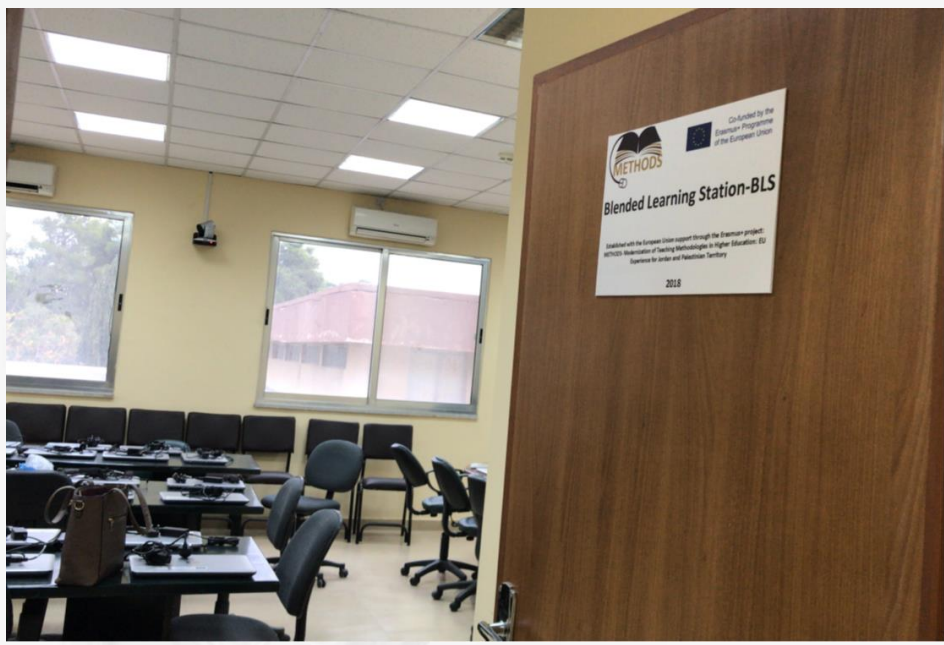


University of Jordan establishes a blended learning station-BLS

A Blended Learning Station-BLS was established at the main library at The University of Jordan. It is equipped by modern equipment in the field of technology.

The station laptops are supported with the latest version of Camtasia Studio software which is used for creating video tutorials and presentations directly via screencast, or via a direct recording plug-in to Microsoft PowerPoint.

The station will be utilized to train faculty members on how to use technology in education and apply modern educational methodologies.





METHODS in Palestinian Press

An Article discussing METHODS project concept and its implementation within Palestinian Universities was published on "This week in Palestine" website by Mahdi Kleibo, lecturer at the Faculty of Business Administration and the Institute of Hotel Management and Tourism at Bethlehem University.

Article link:

<http://thisweekinpalestine.com/methods/?fbclid=IwAR15NXJHzGNiOaqN2uYllvRTxZkDvX20KKNwObIC5FpnRzhTpaXQgolYeQg>



METHODS supports students to conduct their graduation projects and dissertations

Students from Aalborg university in Copenhagen utilized METHODS project to investigate many issues in Education in Jordan and Palestine and conduct their thesis. The results are being published in conferences and scientific Journals. The themes for their research include the following areas:

- Potentials and barriers for ICT innovation based or PBL education
- Didactic models for innovation education in higher education in ME
- Models for knowledge collaboration between universities and external partners in ME

Some published and planned articles:

- Magnussen, R., Senounou, F. M. & Hilmy, S. (in press) Potentials and Barriers for developing PBL inspired teaching forms in higher education in Jordan. European Conference for E-learning (ECEL). Presentation in November in Athens.
- Magnussen, R. (in preparation), Potentials and Barriers for developing ICT supported independent learning environments in a Jordanian and Palestinian context. Qualitative and quantitative results from METHODS. High impact journal on international research in higher education.
- Magnussen, R. & Benamar, N. (Planned) Knowledge collaboration between higher education and external partners. Journal or conference paper.
- Hamann, D. V. & Magnussen, R., (Planned) Innovation education in higher education in a ME context. Article or conference paper based on dissertation.

Inside classroom during a course implementation at ANNU

Group work and problem based learning (PBL) were applied during METHODS courses at ANNU. METHODS equipment were utilized by the students to achieve the project objectives.



UOW Presents METHODS in a conference on the challenges of the digital age for higher education

The team of experts in higher education reform of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development (HERE team) in cooperation with the Tempus-Erazmus Foundation in Serbia organized a conference titled "Challenges of the digital era for higher education" on 10/02/2018 in Belgrade.

Dr. Karl Royle (University of Wolverhampton) delivered a presentation about the European digital strategies, the development of online courses and digital teaching with a focus on METHODS project experience.

You can download the speaker presentations from the following links:

[Catherine Mongenet - Digital strategies of universities: trends and structure](#)

[Karl Royle - Back to the future - Changing the way we teach and Teaching and learning in the digital age](#)

[Catherine Mongenet - The story of MOOCs](#)

[Ivanka Popovic - How are we coping?](#)

[Snezana Smederevac - Digitalisation of Science](#)



Inside classroom during a course implementation at ZUJ



Students in thermodynamics (I), Strength of materials and Numerical methods course , in Al-zaytoonah University of Jordan, were taught by using a problem based learning.

They were given a problem related to the material of the course at the end of each chapter and they would be asked to solve it in groups and then present the solution at the whiteboard to the whole class. This technique makes students to do something in class, work in groups and solve problems.



What's Coming Up Next

METHODS Final Conference

March, 2019

Amman, Jordan

We are looking forward to our final project's conference where we expect up to 100 participants from Jordan, Palestine and Europe. Participants will be learning and teaching process stakeholders and all interested in modern learning methodologies topics. The purpose of the event is twofold. One is to present our innovative e- courses: From Theory to Practice developed collaboratively by project partners and covering different topics related to modernize higher education. The other is to discuss the use of e-learning and other innovative teaching and learning methods that could complement traditional learning in Jordan and Palestine universities.

The conference will be organized at the end of the project in The University of Jordan, Jordan.



Project Partners



Partner 1
The University of
Jordan,
UJ (Applicant) , Jordan



Partner 2
Birzeit University, BZU,
Palestine



Partner 3
Hashemite University,
HU, Jordan



Partner 4
An-Najah National
University, ANNU,
Palestine



Partner 5
Palestine Polytechnic
University, PPU,
Palestine



Partner 6
University of
Wolverhampton, UoW,
United Kingdom



Partner 7
Hochschule Eur Technik
Wirtschaft Und Kultur
Leipzig, HTWK,
Germany



Partner 8
University of Deusto,
UD, Spain



Partner 9
Plovdiv University, PU,
Bulgaria



Partner 10
University De Girona,
UdG, Spain



Partner 11
EDAalborg University
Copenhagen, AAU-CPH,
Denmark



Partner 12
World University
Service of the
Mediterranean, WUSM,
Spain



Partner 13
Jordan University of
science and Technology,
JUST, Jordan



Partner 14
Al-Zaytoonah University
of Jordan , Jordan



Bethlehem University Foundation

Partner 15
Bethlehem University ,
Palestine

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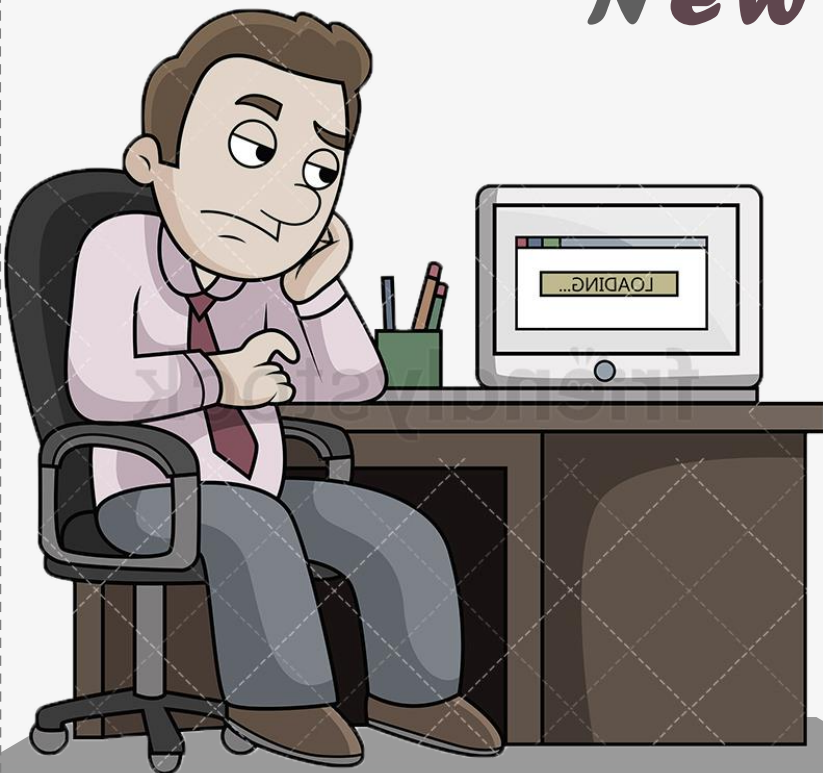
<https://www.facebook.com/methods2016/>



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COMING SOON


NEWSLETTER 7



WAITING .. !



[https://issuu.com/haneenmohammad/docs/methods- newsletter 6](https://issuu.com/haneenmohammad/docs/methods-newsletter_6)

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<http://methods.ju.edu.jo/Home.aspx>